

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 11 No. 11

April 2003

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Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of The Villager. The Villager cannot be held responsible for any goods or services advertised in the magazine

Diary

Regular events:

Teme Valley Shufflers Line Dancing

Weds 7pm Martley Memorial Hall.

Enquiries: Jeff and Thelma 01886 821772

Weight Watchers 6.30-7.30pm Tuesdays

Martley Memorial Hall. *Enquiries:* Jennie Barnes 01886 888712

Citizens Advice Bureau Teme Valley

Evening Telephone Service

Tuesdays 4.30-8pm 01584 810860

Short mat Bowling Tuesdays 2.30pm Martley Memorial Hall

For Church services, please see Church Words

Wed 2 **Wichenford Local Heritage Group**
Elizabeth Howard from the Record Office talks on researching house history

Fri 4 **Prize Bingo for St Michael's Hospice 7.30pm** Gt Witley Village Hall

7.30 pm Memorial Hall followed by **Annual Parish Meeting 8.15pm**

Wed 9 **Martley WI: Mr D Preece talks about Wildlife Photography**
7.30pm Martley Memorial Hall

Fri 11 **Whist Drive at Wichenford:** 8pm
Wichenford Memorial Hall

Sun 13 **Teme Valley Farmers Market for local produce** 11am The Talbot, Knightwick

Martley Ramblers to Bewdley
Meet 2pm Church car park

Mon 14 **Kenswick and Wichenford Annual Parish Meeting** 7.45pm

Tue 15 **Wichenford Ladies' Fellowship**
2.30pm at Brenda Hadfield's

Wed 16 **Citizens Advice Bureau:** 12-1pm
Great Witley Surgery and 1.30-2.30pm Knightwick Surgery - by appointment. Tel. 01584 810860

Thu 17 **Meeting of The Wine Club** 8pm
Wichenford Memorial Hall

Sun 20 **Easter Sunday**
Garden Open Day at 1 Prickley Bungalows, Hockhams Lane, Martley 2-6pm in aid of The National Gardens Scheme

Thu 24 **Martley & District Horticultural Society:** Alan Craske on the restoration of the maze at Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens 7.30pm Martley Memorial Village Hall

Articles to go in The Villager must be with the Editor by the 1st of the previous month

Martley Parish Council

An ordinary meeting of the Martley Parish Council was held on Monday 3 February 2003 at the Memorial Hall. (Mr D Cropp, Vice-Chairman, in the chair)

LIBRARY & CYBER CAFÉ AT MEMORIAL HALL

The MHDC approved the plans and building regulations. Five enquiries to contractors were sent out and three tenders were received. These were opened at the meeting and the best tender accepted.

MATTERS ARISING

- a) Lengthman. Mr Tom Pearsall, who had been invited to attend, was introduced and welcomed as the recently appointed Lengthman. He is the first Lengthman to be so appointed in Worcestershire. Mr Draper had asked Councillors to prepare lists of tasks for the Lengthman, to be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.
- b) Agreement on Core Classes of Information Statements. The Commission of Information accepted Martley Parish's proposal of Core Classes of Information. The list, to be displayed on the Parish Noticeboard, giving details of documents available to meet the requirements of this Act, was circulated and agreed. It will also appear in *The Villager*. Mr D Cropp said he would be registering the Parish's intent to produce a comprehensive Parish Plan and up to £600.00 was available for professional help.
- c) Neighbourhood Watch. Mr N Stammers tabled leaflets covering the organisation for Martley Routes B, C & E and plans are progressing well

but he would like more co-ordinators.

- d) Other. The Clerk had spoken to the Rural Housing Enabler, Mr Saunders, and had discussions with MHDC Planning Officers regarding possible sites in Martley. When definite proposals are ready he will contact the Parish Council.

PARISH MATTERS

Mr J Bradley raised the question of the cones on the verge in Willow Lane. It is understood that the Highways Partnership have agreed to replace the cones with plastic Vergemasters. Councillors were not very happy with this position and Mr A Davies (CC) said he would take this up with the Highways Partnership.

REPORTS

Mr A Davies (CC) said that despite the low figure of inflation, the County Rate Rise is likely to be in double figures.

The Government has given the county £993,000.00 towards transport in the area, but only 3% extra for the Police.

The Chantry School is doing well and is over-subscribed. Scholastically it is within the top 25% of comparative schools in the country.

Mrs B Williams (DC) said MHDC queried the request from the Police Authority for an increase of 12.9% in Precept and extra for additional services. After the 33% rise last year the District consider it excessive. There is £10,000.00 for each parish for transport systems. It was confirmed that discussions are happening with local parishes for an improved flexi-bus system. PC Clifford, the Beat Manager for Tenbury, said he welcomed the opportunity to attend and was pleased to hear of the progress of the Martley

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. These schemes improved communication between Police and public and helped crime prevention. He thought parishes could assist with the quality control of policing by constructive comments and was optimistic about improvements in Policing, with more Police presence in the rural parishes.

Mr J Nicklin sent word that a footpath bridge had been repaired between Bulmers and Prickley Farm and general clearance continued.

PLANNING

a) Applications for comment:

02/01789 The Old Smithy, Hillside - balcony. No objection.

02/01797 Orchard Cottage, Newtown - side extension. No objection.

02/01810 Quarry Farm, Quarry Lane - part demolition and extension. No objections from neighbours but doubts expressed as to whether this degree of demolition and extension should be permitted on a listed building. If allowed, the house, cottage and granny flat should be considered as a single unit and not sold separately.

03/00024 Church Steps, Martley - extension & garage. This site is in a sensitive position in the Martley Conservation Area. No objection to hidden house extension but proposed double garage unacceptable. It would be visible from the Churchyard and Millennium Green.

b) Applications approved by MHDC:

02/01569 Internal alterations to Martley Memorial Hall for Library & Computer Room

02/01570 Taylors of Martley, Berrow Green - two-storey office block, security building and extension to warehouse.

02/01597 HED Rodge Hill Farm, Hillside - removal of hedge and re-planting.

FINANCE

a) cheques for £629.62 were agreed and signed.

b) After discussion, it was agreed that grants of £300.00 for the Churchyard and £175.00 for Nora Parsons Day Centre be paid.

c) Monthly free bus to Worcester. Rogers Coaches have asked for earliest confirmation that coaches will continue to be booked after March. This was discussed at the last meeting and a "Use or Lose" notice included in the Parish Council Report in The Villager. Mrs K Seabright agreed to question passengers to obtain their reaction and see if they would be prepared to receive a voucher to cover the OAP return fare. Wichenford PC are being kept informed.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter of thanks for the donation to the Macmillan Cancer Relief Worcestershire Appeal was received.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS & ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Problems on pot-holes and refuse were reported which the Clerk will take up with the appropriate departments.

Mr D Cropp and Mr J Slough attended the meeting on Parish Plans and there was a real incentive to progress such schemes.

Mrs D Goodyear attended the Penny Hill Liaison Meeting and there was nothing significant to report.

The next meeting is on Monday 7 April 2003 at 7.30 p.m., followed at 8.15 p.m. by the Annual Parish Meeting. ALL PARISHIONERS WELCOME. IT IS YOUR PARISH SO COME AND ASK QUESTIONS AND GIVE YOUR COMMENTS.

*C C Vyvyan-Robinson
Parish Clerk (01886 821623)*

OUT AND ABOUT IN MARTLEY

www.martley.org.uk

Martley & District Horticultural Society

At the February meeting of the Society, members welcomed Mr Terry Green, a member of the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, a subject of interest to country people. The hedgehog, being a victim of modern farming, has decreased in great numbers in recent years. Gone are the days when travellers used to roast them, rolled in clay, on the open fires as a delicacy. Mr Green showed many slides of the way in which the hedgehog struggles to survive and how human beings can assist this small creature. The hedgehog can be a very beneficial creature in the garden, as it devours slugs, beetles and caterpillars. If you feel you would like to encourage them in your garden with food, one of the best is cat food. Hedgehogs are found all around the world across the continent into China and New Zealand. Unfortunately only



a quarter of young hedgehogs survive to full maturity.

At the meeting of the Society on Thursday 24 April at 7.30pm in Martley Village Hall, there will be talk by Alan Craske on the restoration of the maze at Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens. New members most welcome. Members are reminded of the Annual Plant & Car Boot Sale. This year it will be held on Saturday 24 May at 2pm in the Village Hall and on the playing field. Lots of plants needed. Details in the May Villager.

Nellie Bradley

Martley Ramblers

13 April 2pm Church Car Park

Once again we have to thank Pam and Dorrie for all their hard work organising the recent annual dinner at the Lenchford. 37 attended, a record number and everyone voted it one of the best, particularly the food.

Pam Southall has recently visited Bob Edwards, one of our founder members who was walking until his 90th birthday. He has moved to Lincolnshire to be near his daughter and family. He is settling into his new bungalow and surroundings and sent his best wishes to all.

Hurry up and finish with your crutches, Dorrie, the dog is missing his

rambles. The quiz was won by Monty Walker who received a super walking stick, complete with compass and flask for the necessary, which was generously donated by John and Ann Layton. In future, Mabel will be awarded annually for the most interesting walk. Members to vote at the AGM. The Walker family will be leading around Bewdley area this month. Cars leave the Church car park at 2pm prompt.

Kate King.

Apology

In the obituary for Clare Rimell in February Villager, the statement that they lived at The Villa and later bought back the family home of Hillside Farm was incorrect. They never lived at The Villa and Hillside Farm had not previously been the family home. Sincere apologies for any offence caused.

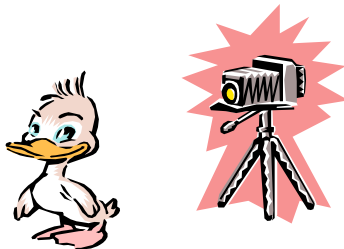


Martley WI

Wednesday 9 April 7.30pm

This month's talk by Mr D Preece is a Guide to Wildlife Photography for Beginners. Hopefully, we shall find out how to keep a butterfly poised long enough to get the camera focussed and how to keep that unusual bird perched within sights of the lens

until the shutter clicks. Perhaps Bluetak or Pritt could be the answer. The competition is for the best wildlife photo (taken by a member and not by Bill Oddie).



The outing to Hampton Court Gardens has been fixed for Saturday 26 April. A theatre visit to see The Pirates of Penzance could be arranged if enough members are interested. Further details re cost and times from the Committee members or at the meeting. We now know the schedule for the County Spring Food and Flower Show on Monday 19 May and feel we must try to improve on coming second last year. The co-operative item is a "Walk in the Country". Anyone with suggestions for craft items or food, please offer them. You won't have to cook or make them if you don't wish to.

Kate King

The Royal British Legion, Knightwick, Broadwas & Cotheridge with Martley

With effect 1 October 2002, Martley Branch became a sub-branch of the Knightwick, Broadwas and Cotheridge

Branch. In brief this means that although we have joint meetings, Martley Branch still has its own Poppy Appeal Collection, Remembrance Day Service and is responsible for service work in Martley and accounts are in place to meet these commitments. These arrangements have been agreed with the County and are organised by our treasurer, John Kirk, with advice from Martley member, Ron Dalton. We meet at the Talbot Hotel, Knightwick at 8pm on the first Monday in the month, and would welcome old and new members. Please join us!

The February meeting was well attended and current business discussed. Arthur Kings reported on the County AGM held at County Hall in January. I was pleased to tell the meeting that Arthur had been awarded a County Certificate of Appreciation for his work with Group 9, Arthur being too modest to announce this himself! Well done Arthur. Thanks were given to Sheila Pugh for purchasing Christmas gifts for our widows and those members confined to home. The next meeting is Monday 3 March at 8pm at the Talbot Hotel, Knightwick where we always receive a warm welcome. If you are interested in the work of the Royal British Legion, whether or not you are ex-Service, please ring me on 01886-821551, or talk to any member known to you.

Joyce Tyler, Hon Secretary

St Peter's Church Easter Lilies

Easter Sunday is 20 April and traditionally arum lilies are placed upon the altar. These special flowers are quite expensive and therefore anyone wishing to make a donation in memory of a loved one is asked to contact Jenny Underhill on 01886-888306.

Greetings from the USA!

Your Editor recently received this email: "As a Martley boy who has recently moved to North Carolina in the USA I was delighted to find The Villager online. For those of us who are not so local any more its a great way of keeping in touch with life back home. Keep up the good work! Mark Hoskins"

If *you* want to find out more about the Martley website, check it out at www.martley.org.

Martley Cricket Club Dinner

The annual Dinner and Presentation Evening and playing of silly games took place at Worcestershire County Cricket Club, where Steve Gibbs and the staff once again provided an excellent dinner.

The wine was provided by the Second Eleven and Isle Of Wight Tour Fines Fund.

Worcestershire all-rounder David

Leatherdale was the Club's guest for the evening and presented trophies to the winners and runners-up in the averages, and the Club President Don Taylor also made a presentation to the tea ladies for the superb catering during the past season.

The winner of the One Hundred Percenter was Leon Wood, and the award of the Tourist Trophy for the Isle Of Wight Tour went to the ever-popular Dave Scorer with Stuart Hayes a close second.

The Richard Petrie Trophy for the Clubman Of The Year was deservedly won for the second time by the Club's Second Team Captain Justin Rushgrove.

Disco and silly games lasted into the early hours, some members felt better than others the following day!

Our Cricket Correspondent

Martley Millennium Green

Fifteen people and five (well-behaved) dogs congregated on the Millennium Green on Saturday morning 1 March to plant trees. We planted about 100 native broad-leaved deciduous trees including a few less-common species such as the Wild Service.

The planting is along the eastern and southern sides of the Green and in time will provide added visual and wildlife interest in what at times can seem a rather featureless landscape. We hope that the little trees in their pink shelters will get a good start during the forthcoming season and

should poke their heads above the shelters before the end of the year.

Wildflowers should start appearing in the Green soon; already there are attractive clumps of primroses near the far end from the gate. By the time this article is published the Spring growth should be well under way.

A few minutes standing at the edge of the Green in mid February allowed observation of large numbers of blackbirds and thrushes quietly pecking around in the molehills for grubs and worms. Even when it *seems* deserted, the Green is teeming with life.

Ian Pennell

Martley Spurs

The Spurs Saturday eleven opened their February fixtures playing Tolladine while the Saturday Premier side tied one all with Perrywood and the Reserves beat Malvern Radar by three goals to one.

Perrywood faced the Spurs again on Saturday the 8th and just managed to beat our boys by three to two. The Sunday Premier side however beat Pinvin 3-1 while the Reserves were narrowly beaten by Archdales Reserves.

The weekend of the 15th - 16th was really worthwhile watching, the Saturday eleven thrashed Koinonia 7-2 in the quarter final of the Martley Cup. The Sunday Premier side beat Droitwich Spa 3-1 and the Reserves netted up a four goal win over Kays

Athletico.

Another great score of 6 - 1 came in an away game when the Saturday side trounced Inkberrow Reserves on the 22nd with Benny Jeynes beating the goalie twice. The Sunday Premier lads didn't do so well the next day as they lost by two goals to Arrow 2000 and the Reserves lost to Oak Apple.

As of the 22nd the league tables found the Saturday Premier side with only ten points, the Sunday Premier side doing much better lying fourth and the Reserves sadly right at the bottom.

The teams wish to thank Bet and Ken Gwin for their kind donation of tea and sugar for their after match refreshments, and wish all their sponsors and supporters a Happy Easter.

Beth Williams

Church news

Annual Parochial Meetings for 2003:

Lower Teme Valley Tuesday 1 April 7.30pm St. Mary Magdalene Broadwas.

St. Laurence Wichenford Monday 7 April 7.30pm at church.

Due to the success of the recent Alpha Course held for the Benefice it is hoped that we will be able to run a further course in the near future. If you are interested please contact Rev David Sherwin. May I take this opportunity to thank George and June Lawrence for their hospitality over the previous few months and for the

wonderful meals they have provided for us.

Advance notice of Special events/ services in May/June to which you are most welcome:

Evensong at Wichenford will this year begin in Sunday 18 May 6.30pm and will be held each third Sunday of the Month until September, replacing Matins for this period.

Worcester Diocesan Pilgrimage Worcester Cathedral 5 May from 10.30am onwards led by John Bell of the Iona community. It will be a day of informality and fun for all ages with workshops, activities, walks, tours and worship.

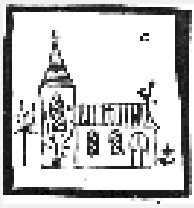
Rogation Sunday 25 May, A Benefice service and picnic will be held at Ridgend Farm Wichenford, the home of John and Sheila Richards.

Ascension Day, Thursday 29 May Holy Communion 7.30pm at St. Peter's Martley.

Sunday 29 June, Ordination of our Curate Jennifer Whittaker at Worcester Cathedral 10.30am followed by a Benefice Lunch and get together with Jennifer and her family and friends at Chantry High School finishing with a service at St. Peter's Martley.

Further information from Revd. David Sherwin, 01886 888664

Baptisms: Lucy Jade Williams, was Baptised on Sunday 2 March 2003 at St. Peter's Martley.



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

Easter, a time of new beginnings, new life. The Church of England has just begun a new phase in its History as the 104th Archbishop, Rowan Williams has taken his place. It has made the press and others ask all sorts of questions and has delighted them at his readiness to speak out on issues he feels strongly about. There have even been those who ask, ‘What relevance the Church has in the 21st Century in a multi-ethnic Britain’? 2000 years ago in a country in the Middle East, one who was of an ethnicity different to ours, spoke out and was killed for his message, and he, Christ, rose again from the dead, to reinforce all he said. Is one who conquers death irrelevant? The Archbishop, the Church world wide, the Church in this diocese, of all denominations, the Church in this benefice, bears witness to a new beginning that began 2000 years ago and continues today. That first Easter began with death and hopelessness, yet climaxed with resurrection, new life, new beginnings, new hope. Is it irrelevant to believe in a Lord of all hopefulness? As it is written, ‘it is a hope that does not disappoint’ (*Romans 5 : 5*), God Bless you and give you hope this Easter.

Revd. David Sherwin, Rector.

Services for April:

6 April	Lent 5
Wichenford	9.30am Holy Communion
Martley	11am Family Service
Broadwas	11am Matins
Knightwick	8am Holy Communion
Cotheridge	6.30pm Evensong
13 April	Palm Sunday
Martley	6.30pm Celebration with Holy Communion
Laylocks Garden Centre	Service for All
20 April	Easter Sunday
Wichenford	9.30am Holy Communion
Martley	11am Holy Communion
Broadwas	11am Easter Worship
Cotheridge	8am Holy Communion
27 April	
Wichenford	11am Holy Communion
Martley	9.30am Holy Communion; 6.30pm Evening Worship
Broadwas	11am All-Age Worship



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Wichenford 100 Club

February 2003 monthly draw – winner No 99, Mr Mike Harris won £104. Well done Mike!

Wichenford Church Altar Flower Rota

6 April Lent – no flowers
13 April No service
20 April Easter decorations
27 April Easter decorations

Wichenford Parochial Church Council AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 7 April 2003 at 7.45pm in the Church. All parishioners are invited to attend this important meeting, where the accounts from last year are presented, and officers elected for the coming year. So if you are interested in how our Parish Church is being run, do please come along - you will be most welcome.



Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378

Phone your Wichenford news to Janet or Sheila or leave articles at Martley Post Office or 1 Oxford View Wichenford

Church Services

Palm Sunday 13 April at 11am.

There will be no service in Wichenford Church this year on this day. Instead we are breaking new ground, joining with other churches in the Benefice and holding our Palm Sunday Service at Laylocks Garden Centre at Broadwas. This should be a most enjoyable experience, so do come and join in.

Maundy Thursday Service 17 April, Service of Holy Communion at 7.30pm in Wichenford Church.

One-Sentence Sermons

Kindness is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.

Give God what is right, not what is left.

Wichenford Ladies Fellowship

Our February meeting was held in the Memorial Hall and took a quite different form. We went back to our childhood days and enjoyed playing Ludo, Snakes and Ladders, Draughts remembering past skills and doing something different. Mrs Pam Webb led the prayers. Mrs Lucy Jones and Mrs Gwen Burnett provided the teas. We wished Mrs Gwen Burnett and Mrs Molly Wall "Happy Birthday" for February days. A draft programme was given to members, and we plan an interesting year of activities, so don't miss out – come and join us. The April meeting will be held at the home of Mrs Brenda Hadfield on 15 April at 2.30pm.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr Dixon Stinton who now has two baby grand-daughters to add to his five grandsons.



To daughter Anita and Son-in-Law Steve, a daughter Kiara on 7 January weighing in at 9lb 7oz, sister for Daniel and Jordan; and to daughter Suzanne and Son-in-Law Vince, a daughter Cassandra Grace on 19 February, weighing in at 6lb 12oz, sister for Alexander. All are doing well. Lots of love and best wishes to all, from Margaret.

Wichenford Memorial Hall Quiz Night

Saturday 8 February was a very enjoyable evening when approximately forty people took part in what appears to now be recognised as our Annual Quiz Night.

Once again Mr John Harwood prepared and presented the questions that this year were based on the animals and reptiles of the Chinese Calendar. John gives his time and expertise free of charge solely to raise funds for the maintenance of our Memorial Hall. We are extremely grateful to him for this. Everyone present appeared to enjoy a very entertaining evening and we hope that we will be able to look forward to a repeat performance next year.

The Management Committee would like to thank everyone who provided us with fifteen wonderful raffle prizes and all members of the Management Committee who gave freely of their time in the preparation of the food and the Hall during the Saturday. Our thanks to Mark and Heidi who were once again responsible for the bar and a special thank you also to Bill Root who once again cooked and donated plenty of delicious onions. Thank you to Ken Randall on the door and Dixon Stinton and Margaret for organising the raffle, and the ladies who yet again did a sterling job in serving the food during the interval.

Last but not least we thank all who supported us to make the evening an

enjoyable, entertaining one in which we raised about £220 towards the maintenance of our Memorial Hall. Without our supporters we could not do this and we are extremely grateful and look forward to your continued support in future events.

*Dixon Stinton, Chairman and
Margaret Fisher, Secretary,
Wichenford Memorial Hall
Management Committee*

Wichenford Wine Club

17 April will be the date of Wichenford Wine Club's April meeting, scheduled for 8.00.p.m. at Wichenford Village Hall.

This month we will be visited by Patrick Shave of The Hop Pocket who will present a selection of his wares for tasting. There will be some English wines to compare with those from more traditional origins.

Mike O'Leary

Wichenford Millennium Green

Tidying and Inspection Rota—April:
Vicki Roberts.

Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council

An ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday 17 February in the Memorial Hall Wichenford at 7.30 pm.

REPORTS

Christopher Whitehead High School: County Councillor Beryl Hickling reported that outline planning permission for a new school building at Earls Court Farm has been granted. This decision will now be put to the secretary of state for approval.

Malvern service centre is being developed within Malvern Library to enable staff to deal with all County and District enquiries under one roof.

Following Vision 21 Worcestershire C.C. has been awarded £992,000, to improve local transport in the Malvern Hills District. Vision 21 identified local transport as the community's top quality of life issues in terms of improvement. This will be spent within the district funding the delivery of flexible transport in rural areas of the Malvern District.

District Councillor Gerald Jordan reported that unemployment in Worcester has risen to 5963 in January, an increase of 664 since December 2002.

Annual figures for the numbers of visitors to the information centres show that in 2002, Malvern had increased by 12.5%.

The Malvern's visitor and accommodation guide for 2003 has been distributed through all national, and networked Tic's and over 9,000 copies have been asked for to date.

On 24 January, officers and members attended the launch of the County Affordable Warmth Strategy at County Hall. Fuel poverty exists where households are spending more

than 10% of their income.

District Councillor Barbara Williams, who will be our new District Councillor after the May elections, if she is re-elected, accompanied councillor Jordan.

MATTERS ARISING

The external auditor has completed the audit for year ending March 2002. The notice of closure of audit is displayed on the notice board along with the account details.

The clerk has been trying to contact the breweries that currently have the Masons Arms. Unfortunately she has been unable to speak to any one to even find a contact address. She will as soon as possible write and ask what they intend to do with this eyesore.

Councillor Panton attended the Rural Transport Seminar at County Hall. Malvern has money to give rural areas for transport. Up to £10,000 can be applied for from the Countryside Agency and a village survey needs to be done. Councillor Panton has spoken to Martley Parish Council and hopes we can go into partnership with other parishes.

FINANCE

The council paid out the sum of £209.12

PLANNING

Application for a single storey domestic extension at 1, Orchard View Wichenford has been given permission.

An indoor swimming pool at Garden Cottage Kenswick has been granted.

Conversion of existing agricultural

barns to 2 dwellings at Allsett Farm has been granted.

Meadow View Wichenford has gone to appeal and the Council will write to the Planning Inspectorate.

The parish council had two new applications to comment on.

A first floor extension to provide additional bedroom and bathroom at Berrow View, Castle Hill Wichenford. The council decided a site visit was needed before any comment could be made.

The conversion of existing barn to form a gymnasium at Colketts Farm Poplar Road Wichenford. The parish council had already approved the previous plan, and felt a new application was inappropriate.

CORRESPONDENCE

M.H.D.C. plan to put a mobile Recycling centre in the village. The Parish Council approve of the idea as long as a suitable site can be found. Malvern District council want to place the unit on the car park by the Millennium Green, but the Parish Council do not consider this a suitable site because of the possibility of broken glass. If the District Council does own the land then the Parish Council want proof of ownership.

NEXT MEETING

31 March 2003 at 7.30pm.

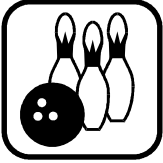
14 April 2003 Annual Parish Meeting at 7.45/8pm.

All in Wichenford Memorial Hall.

Shirley Sanders Clerk to the council.

Stowaway Skittles

Yes, the sound of falling pins has been heard yet again on the side of Berrow Hill.



All indications are of a fairly good season for the Stowaways at The Admiral Rodney. We've had a bright start, and at the time of

writing have won 10 matches and lost 9 (some by just a few pins). Also for the first time in our history (which goes back some way!) we won our first round cup match - and against opposition from a higher division.

The team has some real stalwarts playing regularly, such as Steve "The Spare-Getter" Prickett, Mike "Pin-Gardener" Dunnett, Bob "Mystic Guru" Gittins, Carl "747" Shaw to name but a few. As captain, coach, team adviser, and manager, I do have a number of responsibilities on my

shoulders, which I have to admit sometimes hampers my scoring ability, but far be it for me to make excuses!

Anyway, the Team has started back with confidence and we're all looking forward to next season

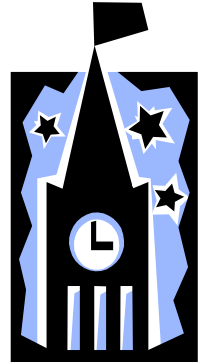
Dave "Where's The KingPin" Cropp

Bellringers Tower Opening

Many of you have enjoyed the experience of climbing up to Martley's bells and then out on to the Tower Roof to celebrate Midsummer.

This year we will be taking folks up and down the Tower on the afternoon of Sunday 22 June.

You will get a talk about the bells, a



HAVE YOUR SAY ON HOW YOUR VILLAGE IS RUN

On 1 May 2003 the District Council and Parish Council will be holding its elections for office. Each councillor will be in office for a term of four years. The candidate must have occupied as owner or tenant property or land for twelve months in either Kenswick or Wichenford. Their principal place of work during those 12 months has been in the area, or they must have resided within three miles of the parish for twelve months. Wichenford has seven Councillors and Kenswick has two. If anyone would be interested to stand as councillor we hold approximately eight or nine meetings a year with occasional site visits between meetings.

Please contact the clerk on 01886 888302 for more information.

Wichenford Local Heritage Group

Evening Classes – The autumn evening classes will run from 1 Oct to early Dec. and will deal with Anglo Saxon Charters and Mediaeval settlement. We also hope to have a Saturday workshop. More details will be provided at a later date.

Dendrochronology – Nigel Nayling is planning to come back to Wichenford during the week beginning 24 March to take some more cores. He is also interested in trying to date some of the old trees in the parish, some of which we have reason to believe are 1000 years old.

The AGM of the Group was held on Wednesday 26th. More than 30 members attended and we all enjoyed a very pleasant evening followed by ‘nibbles’ washed down with are sparkling wine from Argentina. For those of you who missed the meeting, we still have six bottles left for a future occasion. At the meeting, we agreed a constitution and details of membership and meeting charges.

Parish bounds – Having been encouraged by finding on our walk at the southern end of the parish, the ‘Old Dyke’ and Kadera’s pool named in the Saxon Charter of 757, we plan further walks with John Day although no date has yet been agreed. It was quite a sobering experience to stand by a ditch and bank which was described as *old*

1250 years ago. John is also researching the Anglo Saxon history of the parish and has already made considerable progress.

Field walk – We still have no date for an expert review of the finds from our walk on Sawpit field although Neil is working on this. Nor do we yet have a date for the geophysics. We plan to buy our own tapes and rods to carry out more field walks. In particular we look forward to walking in the fields around Cockshoot.

Tithe map – The Tithe map has been digitised and I have a copy on a CD. Neil Locket has provided the ‘virtual’ aerial view and anyone wishing to borrow this should contact me. Robin Whittaker, the archivist at the Record Office, has agreed to help us to make a large, colour copy of the original Tythe map of the parish. We also hope to make several smaller copies (about 18 inches square) for those of you who would like to have a personal copy. I will keep you posted.

Meetings – The next meeting of the Group is on 2 April when Elizabeth Howard from the Record Office will talk about researching house history.

We are now arranging the details of the visit to the long barrow at Bellas Knap. The excursion is planned for Saturday 31 May. Already more than 20 people have said they would like to go. If anyone else is interested, they should contact me on 01886 888519 or Mary Hylan on 01886 888431.

Mervyn Mitchard

In the Garden



“The cuckoo comes in April and sings his song in May” - one of the old sayings, but it doesn’t seem appropriate any more, as the cuckoo can usually be heard in this area in April. April is a busy gardening month. Dead head Spring flowering bulbs. Do not tie the foliage in knots or cut it off, as this robs the bulbs of nutrients necessary to build them up for next year. Remove the top foliage when it turns yellow. Harden off and plant vegetable plants raised in containers. Sow seeds of Autumn and Winter brassicas: purple and white sprouting, Brussels sprouts, parsnips, red beet, peas and potatoes. Lettuce and onion seed for salad can be sown. Do your apples suffer from scab, mildew or grubs? The only way to prevent these is to spray at the green bud stage, and again when the blossom buds are showing. There are various products available for this. Gooseberry sawfly strip the leaves off gooseberry bushes in days—keep a sharp eye out for these and other pests this month. One of the worst of these is the slug—it will devastate the young shoots of almost every variety of garden plants.

Jack Bradley

In the Kitchen



Tuna Pie

This is a quick and easy dish for Easter holiday meals, and uses “store cupboard” ingredients.

Serves 4

2 x 198g (7oz) cans tuna, drained and flaked

1 x 326g (11½ oz) can sweetcorn

100g (4oz) frozen peas

1 large can condensed chicken or mushroom soup

1 large can tomatoes, drained

75g (3oz) Cheddar cheese, grated

1 packet crisps, slightly crushed

Method:

1. Mix together tuna, sweetcorn, peas and soup. Turn into a buttered ovenproof dish and cover with the tomatoes.
2. Mix together cheese and crisps and sprinkle over the tomatoes.
3. Cook at 190°C (375°F, Gas 5) for 30 minutes until the top is golden and bubbling.
4. Serve hot with a crisp salad or your favourite vegetables.





Nature Ramblings

Hornets in Wichenford

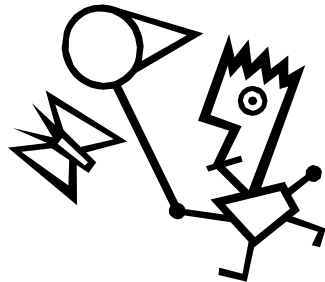
As a beekeeper I am interested in wasps if only because they rob honey from my hives, and each year I destroy many wasp nests. Hornets are comparatively rare and I have only once previously identified the site of a colony in Wichenford. This is now more than 15 years ago: I did not destroy its nest nor would I normally consider destroying a hornet colony.

During August last year at least two hornet colonies were identified in Wichenford. Many villagers saw some of these very large wasp-like insects as the colony had established itself under the roof above the kitchen of the Memorial Hall. The other colony took up residence in the roof of Little Acre where Bill and Mary Hylan live. In view of their size, many people took some persuading that these insects are relatively harmless, they very rarely sting.

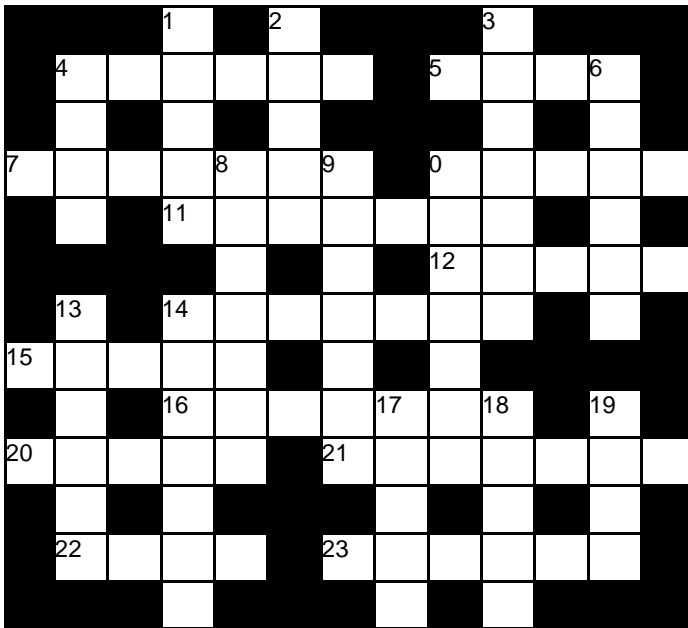
One interesting aspect of their behaviour was observed. Unlike bees and wasps, hornets continue to fly after dark when, like moths, they are attracted by bright lights. They were

easily seen as they were attracted to the lights of the Hall and consequently the doors and windows had to be kept securely shut after dark during September. As with wasps, hornet colonies die when the cold weather sets in and only queens survive the winter by hibernating in suitably sheltered nooks and crannies. These queens emerge in the spring to start new colonies in new sites. We are very unlikely to see hornets in the roof of the Memorial Hall next year but these insects are clearly well established in the parish and long may this continue.

Mervyn Mitchard



Tea-break



ACROSS:

- 4. RECOURSE (6)
- 5. GRATING (4)
- 7. VACATION (7)
- 10. LITTLE PERSON (5)
- 11. SPANISH DIALECT (7)
- 12. DUG FOR (5)
- 14. WRITHE WITH PAIN OVER (7)
- 15. SPHERE (5)
- 16. PRESSING (7)
- 20. CLOYS (5)
- 21. BIRD OF PREY (7)
- 22. LOATHE (4)
- 23. EX PRIME MINISTER (6)

DOWN:

- 1. JELLY (5)
- 2. LARGE (5)
- 3. JUNIOR GIRL GUIDE (7)
- 4. ORIGIN (4)

- 6. BLACKER (6)
- 8. WEAPONS (7)
- 9. SIGN OF FATIGUE (7)
- 10. SMALL PLUMS (7)
- 13. WHITEN (6)
- 14. TALENT (7)
- 17. ORDER OF ARCHITECTURE (5)
- 18. SPIRIT (5)
- 19. BIRD (4)

ANSWERS TO JANUARY CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1.ABRAM 4.LARGESS 8.ORDERLY
 9.BLAZE 10.YORIC 11.EPISTLE 13.LINE 15.
 EASTER 17.SUDDEN 20.MOON 22.RETREAT
 24.CLOTS 26.TUNER 27.ETERNAL 28.
 RACKETS 29.NEEDS
DOWN: 1.ACOLYTE 2.RIDER 3.MIRACLE 4.
 LAYMEN 5.RABBI 6.EXALTED 7.SCENE 12.
 PESO 14.IRMA 16.SATANIC 18.UNCLEAN
 19.NESTLES 21.OTHERS 22.ROTOR 23.
 EERIE 25.OUNCE



Time out!

Genuine cracker jokes

Q. What do you get if you cross fish and elephants?

A. *Swimming trunks*

Q. What do you call a cow that eats grass?

A. *A lawn-mooer*

Q. What jumps up and down at the front of cars?

A. *Froglights*

Q. Why did the turkey cross the road?

A. *Because the chicken was on holiday*

Word Grid

Find the 9-letter word in the grid below, then see how many words of 3 or more letters you can find. Letters must touch each other across, up, down or diagonal.

C	H	E
C	O	T
O	L	A

Answer to word grid:
Chocolate

NEW QUARTER-PAGE
ADVERT

Quiztime

1. Burmese is a variety of which household animal?

2. Jay Kaye of the band Jamiroquai is the partner of which TV presenter?

3. The oil terminal Sullom Voe is in which island group—

Shetlands or Hebrides?

4. In which century did Alfred Lord Tennyson become the English Poet Laureate?

Answers: 1. Cat; 2. Denise Van Veen; 3. Shetlands; 4. Nineteenth (1850)